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Appl. No. 09/917,147  
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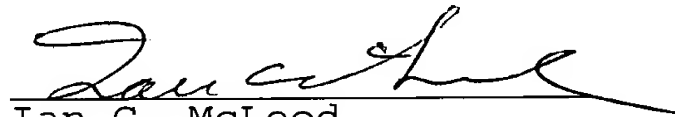
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 3 to 8 are pending. No claims are allowed.

Independent Claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended to delete the reference to pseudoboehmite. The Examiner is correct that pseudoboehmite could not be used to produce a purely crystalline material, since it is partially amorphous to begin with and does not change upon calcination. Thus the claims now distinguish over the Pinnavaia '706 patent and the remaining prior art. With this limitation the present invention is distinguished over the prior art.

It is now believed that Claims 1 and 3 to 8 are in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully,



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